

INFORMATION LETTER

Not for
Publication

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members
Only

No. 1024

Washington, D. C.

February 17, 1945

GROWER SUPPORT PRICES ON FOUR MAJOR VEGETABLES GROWN FOR CANNING PURPOSES ARE ANNOUNCED BY WFA

All Prices Remain Unchanged Except for Snap Beans and for Some Green Pea Areas

Higher goals for processing vegetables and increased price supports over those previously established have been announced by the War Food Administration.

Because of increased military requirements, the national goal for processing vegetables for 1945 has been increased to 2,155,000 acres. Goals for the individual crops vary by States and by areas within States, but nationally, for the four major vegetables, they are these percentages of 1944 planted acreages: Snap beans, 98 per cent; green peas, 108 per cent; sweet corn, 105 per cent; and tomatoes 110 per cent.

The support program is designed to assure growers the prices necessary to produce the needed quantities of these vegetables for canning, in line with existing facilities. Price supports for the crops included in the 1945 program, except snap beans, will be maintained at 1944 levels. Green peas will be supported at a national average of \$83.50 a ton; sweet corn at \$18; tomatoes at \$25.25; and snap beans at \$85, which is about \$6 a ton lower than in 1944.

Proposed price supports for 1945, announced last fall together with preliminary goals, had contemplated reductions in the support levels of 50 cents a ton for corn, \$3.50 a ton for peas, and \$10 a ton for snap beans.

Changes from the 1944 average area prices for snap beans apply uniformly to all areas and are designed to encourage the production and canning of the more desirable varieties and to discourage production and canning of the less acceptable varieties. They include a \$5.00 per ton reduction for pole, wax and green round bush (except black seeded) varieties; a reduction for all green flat and black seeded round varieties to a uniform \$60 per ton level in all areas; and the establishment in all areas of the same price—\$105 per ton—for the pole varieties. The price established for the Refugee variety is \$10 above the applicable 1945 area price for other round varieties (except black seeded).

As in past years, growers may be assured of the minimum support prices on one or more of the 4 vegetables only by entering into contract agreements with canners. Tonnage sold on the open market will not be supported.

Canners participating in the program will be certified by State Agricultural Conservation Committees as having agreed to contract with producers at prices equal to or above the specified support levels.

The 1945 grower support prices on the following schedules are on an average or field run basis. These prices are expressed in dollars per ton and are for vegetables delivered to the canners' plant or major assembly point, whichever has been customarily used by growers and canners. The detailed State and area breakdown of prices by varieties, grades and sizes, designed to encourage the production and canning of the kind and quality of pack needed to meet requirements, will be available to growers and canners upon request to (Concluded on page 8524)

Tydings Introduces Bills on Drafting of Farm Labor

The highly controversial May-Balley "work-or-jail" bill and the George bill to divorce loan agencies from the Commerce Department as a prelude to confirmation of Henry Wallace as secretary, held the spotlight in Congressional halls this week.

Perhaps the most important development to canning interests was the reaction of Congress to reports of wholesale drafting of agricultural labor. Senator Tydings moved swiftly in two directions to block it, introducing one bill as an amendment to the proposed May-Balley bill when it reaches the floor, and a second measure to reaffirm the intent of Congress and to set up a joint House and Senate investigation of the matter.

This measure (S. Con. Res. 8) reaffirms the will and desire of Congress that Selective Service Boards concern themselves solely with the draftee's es- (Concluded on page 8529)

OPA Extends Time for Reporting Ceilings Computed under Pricing Method No. 1 and Provides for Reports under Pricing Method 2

By Amendment 21 to Supplement 7 to Food Products Regulation 1, effective February 17, the Office of Price Administration has made provision for canners who price their products under Pricing Method No. 2 to report their ceiling prices to OPA. The amendment, which also extends the reporting time for canners pricing under Pricing Method No. 1, collates into one order all amendments from 1 to 21 of Supplement 7.

Under Amendment 21, canners must file reports, in duplicate, of their prices figured under Pricing Method No. 2. The reports are to be sent to the OPA district office for the area in which the canner's principal place of business is situated.

Reports must be filed on OPA Form No. 633-2116 on or before March 10, for all items of a product that were packed by the canner before February 17. If the pack for a particular item of a product began after February 17, the report must be filed within 30 days

of the beginning of the pack. A separate statement is required for each product.

Copies of Form No. 633-2116 will be mailed to all affected canners within a few days, OPA said.

The time in which canners who price under Method No. 1 may report their ceiling prices (OPA Form 633-2100) has been extended to February 22, OPA said. This has been done because it has been impossible to obtain the printing and distribution of the reporting forms in time for canners to meet the original time limit.

The amendment provides that a canner who figures a uniform ceiling price for an item produced in more than one canning plant shall submit the calculations by which he arrived at the price along with his report of the price itself. New statements must be submitted within 10 days of each time after the price is refigured.

Canners who figure their prices under the elective pricing method, if asked to

change their reports or to provide additional information, are advised that they must count from the day the additional information is mailed, in figuring the 30-day period after which the price submitted may be considered approved.

For the convenience of canners and to enable OPA to obtain complete and accurate information, application forms (OPA Form No. 633-2079) have been provided for canners who apply for an adjustment of their ceiling prices covered by Pricing Method No. 2.

Provisions for filing reports by grower-processors who establish prices under this method will be announced later, OPA said.

Section 13 to Supplement 7 to FPR 1 is amended as follows:

Sec. 13. *Reports which processors must file*—(a) *Items priced under section 5.* Every processor shall file with the district office of the Office of Price Administration for the area in which his principal place of business is located a report, in duplicate and signed by him, on Office of Price Administration Form No. 633-2100, for each item for which his maximum price is named in or figured under section 5 of this supplement. As to each item which the processor packed prior to February 17, 1945, the report shall be filed on or before February 22, 1945. (The report for all items of a particular product shall be made on one form.) As to each item for which his first pack is started after February 17, 1945, the report shall be filed within 30 days after the beginning of the pack.

In addition to the report for each factory, a processor who figures a uniform maximum price for a group of factories shall file on Office of Price Administration Form No. 633-2100, in duplicate and signed by him, a separate report for the price so figured, together with a statement showing the name and location of each factory in the group and his calculations under section 10 (f). The report and statement shall be filed on or before the applicable date specified above for the factory in the group at which the pack of the item is last started. Within 10 days after each time he refigures the uniform maximum price in accordance with section 10 (f), he shall file a new report for the price, together with a statement showing his calculations including volume of sales made of the production of each factory during the one-year period immediately preceding the date of refiguring.

(b) *Items priced under section 6*—(1) *Reports to be filed by processors other than grower-processors pricing under paragraph (c) of section 6.* Every processor, other than a grower-processor pricing under paragraph (c) of section 6, shall file with the district office of the Office of Price Administration for the area in which his principal place of business is located a report, in duplicate and signed by him, on Office of Price Administration Form No. 633-2116, for

each item for which he figures his maximum price under section 6 of this supplement. As to each item which the processor packed prior to February 17, 1945, the report shall be filed on or before March 10, 1945. (The report for all items of a particular product shall be made on one form.) As to each item for which his first pack is started after February 17, 1945, the report shall be filed within 30 days after the beginning of the pack.

In addition to the report for each factory, a processor who figures a uniform maximum price for a group of factories shall file on Office of Price Administration Form No. 633-2116, in duplicate and signed by him, a separate report for the price so figured, together with a statement showing the name and location of each factory in the group and his calculations under section 10 (f). The report and statement shall be filed on or before the applicable date specified above for the factory in the group at which the pack of the item is last started. Within 10 days after each time he refigures the uniform maximum price in accordance with section 10 (f), he shall file a new report for the price, together with a statement showing his calculations including volume of sales made of the production of each factory during the one-year period immediately preceding the date of refiguring.

(2) *Reports to be filed by grower-processors (including grower-owned cooperatives) pricing under paragraph (c) of section 6.* (To be announced.)

Copies of the reporting forms may be secured from any district office of the Office of Price Administration.

(4) *(d) Form of application.* Applications for adjustment shall be filed in duplicate on Office of Price Administration Form No. 633-2079 and shall contain the information specified in that form. Copies may be obtained from the Fruits and Vegetables Branch, Food Price Division, Office of Price Administration, Washington, D. C.

Section 10 to Supplement 7 to FPR 1 is amended as follows:

GROWER SUPPORT PRICES

(Concluded from page 8523)

(1) Agricultural Conservation Committees in the various States; (2) the Fruit and Vegetable Branch, Office of Marketing Services, War Food Administration, Washington 25, D. C.; and

(c) *Elective pricing method for processors* (sec. 2.4 of FPR 1). The maximum "mark-up percentage" figure is 175 per cent. For the purpose of this supplement the reported price shall be deemed to have been approved 30 days after mailing the report (or any additional information, amended report or change in the report which may have been requested) unless, within that time, the Office of Price Administration has either disapproved the price or authorized a maximum price.

NOTE: The processor should remember to allow sufficient time after the expiration of the 30-day period to permit notification by mail to reach him before he assumes that no action has been taken by the Office of Price Administration during that period.

Army Takes More Canned Meat

To keep the necessary quantities of canned meat going to the U. S. Armed Forces, the War Food Administration has increased the set-aside of Utility grade beef. Beginning February 11, 1945, packers operating under Federal inspection in all States except California, Oregon and Washington will be required to set aside for Government purchase 70 per cent instead of the previous 50 per cent of this grade.

This increase was not made applicable to the three Pacific coast States, because the canning facilities in that area are presently operating at capacity and are not able to handle additional quantities of beef. The set-aside in those States remains at 50 per cent.

Federally-inspected slaughterers are now required to hold temporarily all their Choice, Good and Commercial grades of beef from which up to 60 per cent may be selected for Government purchase. In addition they are required to set aside 80 per cent of the Canner and Cutter grades.

(3) any regional office of WFA. Regional offices are located at the following addresses: Western Union Building, Atlanta 3, Georgia; 425 Wilson Building, Dallas 1, Texas; 150 Broadway, New York 7, New York; and 821 Market Street, San Francisco 3, California.

SNAP BEANS

	Blue Lake poles	Refugees	Other rounds ¹ and wax	Plata and black- seeded rounds ¹
Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia...	\$105.00	\$97.50	\$87.50	\$60.00
Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut.....	105.00	95.00	85.00	60.00
New York.....	105.00	105.00	95.00	60.00
Wisconsin, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa, and Missouri.....	105.00	90.00	80.00	60.00
Other States.....	105.00	85.00	75.00	60.00

¹ Except black-seeded varieties. ² Except wax.

* In Washington and Oregon the price for wax beans is \$105.00.

TOMATOES	Price per ton
California, Southern ¹	\$27.00
Italian.....	27.00
California, other than Southern.....	25.00
Italian.....	27.00
Oregon, Washington, and Northern and Southwestern Idaho ²	26.00
Idaho (other than Northern and Southwestern), Montana, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Massachusetts.....	24.00
Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, and North Carolina.....	24.00
New Jersey.....	29.00
Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New York, Southeastern ³	28.00
New York (other than Southeastern), Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont.....	25.00
Pennsylvania, Northern ⁴	27.00
Pennsylvania, other than Northern.....	28.00
Delaware.....	27.00
Maryland, (Washington, Allegheny and Garrett Counties).....	27.00
Maryland (remainder of State).....	28.00
Virginia, (Accomac and Northampton Counties).....	28.00
Virginia, Mainland.....	27.00
West Virginia.....	27.00

¹ Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Orange, Riverside, San Diego, and Imperial Counties.

² Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Shoshone, Benewah, Latah, Nez Perce, Clearwater, Lewis, Idaho, Adams, Valley, Washington, Payette, Gem, Canyon, Boise, Elmore, Ada, Owyhee, Camas, Gooding, Lincoln, Jerome, Minidoka, Twin Falls, and Cassia Counties.

³ Green, Columbia, Ulster, Dutchess, Putnam, Westchester, Rockland, Orange, Albany, and Rensselaer Counties and all of Long Island.

⁴ Erie, Crawford, Mercer, Venango, Forest, Warren, McKean, Potter, Tioga, Bradford, Wayne, and Susquehanna Counties.

SWEET CORN	Price per ton
Maine and New Hampshire.....	\$28.00
Vermont.....	22.00
New York and New Jersey.....	19.00
Pennsylvania.....	19.00
Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia.....	19.00
Illinois, Indiana and Central and Eastern Iowa ¹	10.00
Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Missouri.....	17.00
Washington, Oregon, and Northwestern Utah ²	23.00
Northern and Southwestern Idaho ³	23.00
Wyoming, Colorado, and Montana.....	17.00
All other States and counties.....	17.00

¹ The area in Iowa bounded with the following counties: Clayton, Fayette, Bremer, Butler, Franklin, Wright, Humboldt, Pocahontas, Buena Vista, Sac, Calhoun, Webster, Boone, Dallas, Madison, Union and Ringgold.

² Northwestern Utah: Box Elder, Cache, Davis, Morgan, Salt Lake, Utah and Weber Counties.

³ Northern Idaho: Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Shoshone, Benewah, Latah, Nez Perce, Clearwater, Lewis, and Idaho Counties; Southwestern Idaho: Adams, Valley, Washington, Payette, Gem, Canyon, Boise, Elmore, Ada, Owyhee, Camas, Gooding, Lincoln, Jerome, Minidoka, Twin Falls, and Cassia Counties.

GREEN PEAS	Price per ton
Delaware and Maryland.....	\$91.00
New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania.....	90.50
Virginia.....	89.50
Washington, Western ¹	89.00
Maine.....	88.50
New York.....	88.00
New Jersey, Iowa (except Southwest Iowa), West Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee.....	86.00
Illinois and Southeast Wisconsin.....	83.00
Minnesota, Northwest Wisconsin, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and South Carolina.....	82.50
Arkansas.....	81.00
Ohio.....	80.50
Oregon (except Malheur County), Washington (Other than Western ²), and Northern Idaho ³	79.00
Michigan, Texas, Utah, and Southeast Idaho.....	78.50
Indiana, Southwest Idaho, Malheur County in Oregon.....	77.50
Missouri, Southwest Iowa, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Kansas.....	76.50
Arizona and Nevada.....	76.00
California, Colorado, and Montana.....	74.00
South Dakota and North Dakota.....	73.50
Wyoming.....	73.00
New Mexico.....	71.00

¹ Western Washington: Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish, King, Pierce, Lewis, Skamania, Cowlitz, Clark, Wahkiakum, Pacific, Thurston, Grays Harbor, Mason, Kitsap, Jefferson, Clallam, Island, and San Juan Counties.

² Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Shoshone, Benewah, Latah, Nez Perce, Clearwater, Lewis, and Idaho Counties.

Under Direction 2 to Limitation Order L-30-b, issued February 14, each manufacturer may make cold pack canners only in one size. The canners may have a capacity of from 17 to 25 quarts and should be designed to hold seven one-quart jars, nine one-pint jars or four half-gallon jars. They must be deep enough to cover a standard one-quart jar with at least one inch of water. No canner made under the direction may be sold as a stock pot.

Carbon steel may be used to make wire racks for canners produced under Direction 2.

Boxboard Pulp May Be Less

Allocation of pulp for the production of boxboard, which goes into the manufacture of folding and set-up boxes, for the second quarter of 1945 will not be more and probably will be less than was allocated for the first quarter of 1945, War Production Board officials have announced. The actual figure has not been determined, but the anticipated over-all pulp shortages are estimated at about 100,000 tons, chiefly in white pulp and unbleached kraft, it was reported to a joint session of the WPB Boxboard, Folding and Set-up Box Industry Advisory Committees at a recent meeting.

Military packaging requirements for the second and succeeding quarterly periods are expected to increase considerably. A new program for adding ice cream to the soldiers' feeding program at the battlefronts will probably require 400,000,000 cartons suitable for packaging ice cream made in the battle areas.

The industry was asked to back up WPB efforts, particularly in the collection of waste paper, so essential in the production of paperboard in view of the current pulp shortage. Collections of waste paper were estimated at between 540,000 and 550,000 tons a month at present.

WFA to Buy Condensed Milk

The War Food Administration has announced that it will accept offers for the sale of canned sweetened condensed milk. Offers must be submitted not later than February 24, and thereafter not later than Saturday of the second and fourth week of each month. Offers received after Saturday will be held for consideration the following offer period unless previously withdrawn by offeror.

Further information may be obtained by communicating with the Procurement and Price Support Branch, Office of Supply (CCC), War Food Administration, Washington 25, D. C.

Home Canners Get More Steel

Enameled ware manufacturers have been granted permission by the War Production Board to use sufficient iron

and steel to make half as many cold pack (water bath) canners for the 1945 home canning season as they made in the year ended June 30, 1941, or about 500,000 enameled canners.

1944 CANNER SUPPORT PRICE PROGRAM IS ANNOUNCED

WFA Will Purchase 12 Vegetable Items at 86.5% of Cannery's Ceiling Prices

The War Food Administration, early in 1944, announced that it would support the price of certain canned vegetables by purchasing quantities offered by certified canners at levels equivalent to 86.5 per cent of canners' gross ceiling prices, subject to certain limitations. To fulfill this commitment, the WFA has just released the following details concerning the program:

The purchase program, as originally announced by WFA early in 1944, was designed to assure war needs of canned vegetables by guaranteeing to protect canners against price declines below a given price level. The commodities included are canned snap beans, lima beans, beets, carrots, sweet corn, green peas, spinach, tomatoes, tomato juice, tomato pulp, and tomato paste. The offer to purchase will extend throughout the normal marketing season for each product.

Gross ceiling price is defined as the total maximum price allowed under Office of Price Administration regulations before deducting any subsidy payable on the product. Among the limitations is an adjustment of the purchase price in the case of those canned vegetables offered from a pack produced in whole or in part from raw material purchased on the open market at prices below the announced grower support price for that area.

Actual contract terms and conditions may be obtained by requesting Forms PB 331, PBT 331, and PBO 331 from the Procurement and Price Support Branch, War Food Administration, Washington 25, D. C., or from any regional office located at Chicago, Atlanta, Dallas, New York, or San Francisco.

Following are the general procedural requirements governing canners' participation in the program:

Qualification for Eligibility

No offer will be considered by WFA unless the canner has been duly certified by his State Agricultural Conservation Committee as having contracted—or offered to contract—with growers at the 1944 minimum support prices applicable to the commodity offered.

Certification by Cannery.

Every canner offering to WFA any lot of the canned vegetables included in this program will be required to file a certificate with each offer stating, among other things, (1) that the offered merchandise was canned after January 1, 1944, and before the following dates in the case of each com-

modity listed thereafter: January 1, 1945, for canned sweet corn, green peas, tomatoes, tomato juice, tomato pulp and tomato paste; March 1, 1945, for canned snap beans; and May 1, 1945, for canned beets, carrots, spinach and lima beans; (2) the total raw tonnage purchased from growers under contract acreage agreements and the minimum support price per ton to be paid therefor, as certified by the appropriate State Agricultural Conservation Committee; (3) the total tonnage of raw material otherwise purchased and the weighted average price thereof; (4) the total pack of the offered commodity canned within the respective periods specified in (1) above, broken down by can sizes; (5) the 1944 gross ceiling prices of the canner on the items specified in the inspection certificate(s) which accompanies the offer.

Opening and Closing Dates

Offers may be made to WFA at any time but must carry a telegraphic filing time or postmark before 12 p. m. midnight of the following dates for the respective commodities: Spinach, April 30, 1945; green peas, May 31, 1945; beets and carrots, August 31, 1945; snap beans, lima beans, sweet corn, tomatoes, and tomato products, June 30, 1945.

Certification by Inspectors.

All offers must be accompanied by a Federal inspection certificate issued within 60 days of the date of offer. This certificate shall specify, in addition to the usual information relating to grade, variety, type, style, size, container, etc., the year in which packed wherever it can be determined by the inspector. Certification shall be on the basis of U. S. grade standards, inspection cost to be borne by the canner.

Bases of Purchase.

All canned vegetables offered to and accepted by WFA pursuant to this program must be U. S. Standard grade or better, and will be purchased in carlot quantities, f.o.b. cars or trucks at canning plant, packed with commercial labels in strong, new export shipping cases, with straps. Cannerys shall be required to submit with their offers a statement of the difference in cost between domestic and export packaging, and to specify separately the cost of the case and the cost of strapping. Purchases will be made in tin containers of the sizes authorized by WFB Order M-81, as amended.

Storage and Delivery.

WFA may take delivery at any time after acceptance of items offered by canners but reserves the right to defer delivery without charge for any period

not exceeding thirty days after the applicable closing date for submitting offers on the given commodity as set out above.

Withdrawal of Offers.

Cannerys may withdraw offers to sell at any time prior to acceptance without, and after acceptance with, the consent of WFA.

Limitations.

In addition to whatever terms and conditions are set forth herein as part of this trade announcement, or as may hereafter be published in, or in connection with, the schedules applicable to the various commodities covered by this announcement, WFA reserves the right generally to restrict its purchases of the specified commodities in accordance with the following limitations:

1. The purchase price for No. 1 sieve size U. S. Grade A canned lima beans shall not exceed 86.5 per cent of the canner's individual f.o.b. ceiling price for No. 2 size U. S. Grade A canned lima beans.

2. The purchase price for any grade, type, and variety of shoe-string style canned snap beans shall not exceed 86.5 per cent of the calculated area average ceiling price for No. 3 size whole style canned snap beans of the same grade, type, and variety.

3. The purchase price for any grade, type, and variety of asparagus style canned snap beans shall not exceed 86.5 per cent of the calculated area average ceiling price for No. 3 sieve size whole style canned snap beans of the same grade, type, and variety.

4. The purchase for any grade, type, or variety of whole or cut style canned snap beans shall not exceed 86.5 per cent of the calculated area average ceiling price for No. 3 sieve size canned snap beans of the same grade, type, or variety of whole or cut canned snap beans respectively.

5. The purchase price for each grade of shoe-string style canned beets shall not exceed 86.5 per cent of the canner's individual f.o.b. ceiling price for quartered style canned beets of the same grade.

6. The purchase price for each grade of canned carrots of styles other than diced shall not exceed 86.5 per cent of the canner's individual f.o.b. ceiling price for canned diced carrots of the same grade.

7. The purchase price for each grade of canned early or Alaska peas shall not exceed 86.5 per cent of the calculated area average ceiling price for No. 2 sieve size canned early or Alaska peas of the same grade.

8. The purchase price for any grade of canned sweet peas shall not exceed

86.5 per cent of the calculated area average ceiling price for No. 3 sieve size canned sweet peas of the same grade.

Support Prices.

The maximum prices which WFA shall pay for canned snap beans, sweet corn, green peas, tomatoes, and spinach offered and accepted under this program are published in official WFA trade announcement. These prices are tabulated in schedules for each commodity by area, type, variety, sieve size, and grade, where such classifications are appropriate and are in each instance 86.5 per cent of the calculated area average ceiling price for the respective commodity as announced by Office of Price Administration in the applicable amendment to Supplement 7 to FPR 1. The prices published shall be used in determining the total amount to be paid canners offering any of the five commodities designated, except in those cases where 86.5 per cent of the individual gross f.o.b. ceiling price on any particular item offered by the canner is found to be lower than the price listed in the applicable appendix, then the lower price shall be used.

The maximum prices which WFA shall pay for canned lima beans, beets, carrots, tomato juice, tomato pulp, and tomato paste, offered and accepted under this program shall be 86.5 per cent of the canner's individual gross f.o.b. ceiling price for the particular type, variety, sieve size, grade, and container offered, subject to the specific limitations outlined herein.

Canned Fish under WFO 63

The War Food Administration has added to the list of foods under import control the following canned fish items: Canned salmon; canned herring, smoked or kippered, or in tomato sauce; canned sardines and other herring, including snacks, tidbits, rollmops and sprats, not in oil or oil and other substances; and other canned fish, whether in oil, in oil and other substances, or not in oil.

This action, taken in War Food Order 63.2, effective February 15, is expected to prevent diversion to the United States of supplies allocated by the Combined Food Board to other areas.

Northwest Cannery Association

At the annual business meeting of the Northwest Cannery Association which was held January 18 and 19 at Gearhart, Ore., the following were elected officers: President, Ivan H. Moorhouse, Olympia, Wash.; 1st vice president, O. E. Snider, Salem, Ore.; 2nd vice

president, F. M. Moss, Payette, Idaho; and secretary-manager, Harold A. Brock, Portland, Ore.

QMC Announces Specifications for Canned Pureed Vegetables

The Quartermaster Corps has just issued tentative specifications for certain canned pureed vegetables under announcement Form C.Q.D. No. 336, effective December 8, 1944. Principal required specifications are as follows:

D. General Requirements.

D-1. Except as herein specified, all deliveries shall conform in every respect to the provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and regulations promulgated thereunder.

D-2. The vegetables shall be properly prepared, cooked, strained, and/or homogenized, in conformity with good commercial practice, and in no case shall the perforations or openings in the screen or sieve be greater than 0.033 inch.

D-3. The finished product shall possess a reasonably bright, good, typical color of the vegetable. It shall possess a good consistency which shall not be stiff, thin, or watery and there shall be no unreasonable separation of liquid. It shall be practically free from defects and coarse particles.

D-4. The finished product shall possess a good characteristic taste of the vegetable, and shall be free from objectionable odors and flavors.

D-5. The pureed vegetables shall occupy not less than 90 per cent of the volume capacity of the container.

E. Detail Requirements.

E-1. The pureed products shall have a total solids content (determined on a salt-free basis) not less than that indicated as follows:

Snap beans, green, 7.5 per cent; beets, 9.0 per cent; carrots, 7.5 per cent; peas, 15.0 per cent; and spinach, 6.5 per cent.

Further information concerning the tentative QMC specifications may be obtained by writing E. N. Reusswig, Principal Consultant, Subsistence Section, Quartermaster Corps, 2828 Temporary A Bldg., 2nd and Q Sts., S. W., Washington 25, D. C.

Canned Oyster Ceilings Raised

Canners' ceiling prices for Eastern and Gulf oysters have been increased by 25 cents a dozen for the No. 1 picnic size and by 35 cents a dozen for the No. 2 picnic size, the Office of Price Administration has announced. The action was taken through Amendment 2 to Maximum Price Regulation 328, effective February 9.

Canner's maximum prices f.o.b. the shipping point nearest the cannery are now \$3.60 per dozen cans for the No. 1

picnic size and \$6.60 per dozen cans for the No. 2 picnic size, less the canner's customary allowances, discounts, and differentials to purchasers of different classes.

The increases in ceilings were necessary because rising labor and other direct costs threatened to place oyster canners in a loss position and generally reduce production of this food product, OPA said. The pricing agency also stated that an accounting study is now under way, and that if this study reveals that further adjustments are necessary they will be made as soon as possible.

The amendment further requires oyster canners to notify wholesalers, retailers, and distributors of the increase in ceiling prices on all deliveries made for a period of 90 days after the effective date of the amendment.

Farm Machinery Output Off

Production of farm machinery for the six-month period July 1-December 31, 1944, showed little improvement over that for the four months from July 1 to October 31, War Production Board officials reported at a recent meeting of the Farm Machinery and Equipment Industry Advisory Committee. Production exclusive of wheel tractors, repair parts, and attachments for the six-month period was 22.9 per cent behind the scheduled program for this period, as compared with a 25 per cent lag for the four-month period ended October 31, the committee was informed.

Failure to meet programmed schedules is due to manpower shortages and difficulty in obtaining certain components, particularly malleable and grey iron castings, which are required for urgent military programs. Since no appreciable improvement in factors that are retarding production can be foreseen, production for the entire year, ending June 30, 1945, will probably be considerably less than the scheduled program, WPB officials said. Some committee members reported their production closer to schedule than the over-all figures indicated. Others, however, reported that they expect increasing difficulty in recruiting manpower.

State Legislature Meetings

Legislatures of 41 States began regular sessions in January. State legislatures that will meet later than the month of January are Alabama, May; Florida, April; Georgia, July. Four States (Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Virginia) do not have regular sessions scheduled until next year.

Vinson Explains Statement Regarding Wage "Fringe" Adjustments

Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson last week end issued a statement clarifying a letter he had previously written to the War Labor Board barring "fringe" wage adjustments which would increase ceiling prices. The letter had been criticized as a change of policy but Mr. Vinson emphasized in his statement that he was merely restating the wage adjustment standards provided by the "hold-the-line" order of April 8, 1943.

Mr. Vinson pointed out that wage adjustments, with some exceptions including Little Steel formula increases, are not allowed if the wage adjustment will "appreciably" increase the level of production costs, or if the adjustment will furnish a basis for increasing ceiling prices. This would include shift differentials, changes in piece work methods of pay, and the like.

The text of the statement follows:

In view of recent comments with reference to wage adjustments of the so-called "fringe" variety and with reference to an alleged change of policy by this office, I want to clear up any misunderstanding regarding the national wage stabilization policy.

In this connection, I wish to call attention to certain language in the President's Hold-the-Line Order. This order has been in effect since April 8, 1943. It provides that the National War Labor Board may authorize "reasonable adjustments of wages and salaries in cases of promotions, reclassifications, merit increases, incentive wages, or the

like, provided that such adjustments do not increase the level of production cost appreciably, or furnish the basis either to increase prices or to resist otherwise justifiable reductions in prices." My statement to the National War Labor Board was a restatement of, not a change in, this standard and a suggestion for a better procedure to effectuate the Executive Order.

Except for wage increases permitted under the Little Steel formula, increases designed to correct substandard living conditions, increases to the minimum bracket of sound and tested going rates, or rare and unusual increases in critical war production cases, all wage adjustments must be brought within the language of this clause. Otherwise, wage increases are prohibited by the President's order.

In practice, adjustments under this clause have, for the most part, been confined to vacations with pay, shift differentials, severance pay, holiday pay, merit increases, automatic progression plans, and the reclassification of wage scales within a particular plant. These are the so-called "fringe adjustments."

Such "fringe adjustments" can be made only if they will not affect adversely our price stabilization program. This policy is not a new one. It has been a part of our wage stabilization policy ever since the President issued his Hold-the-Line Order on April 8, 1943. In my opinion, this policy is a sound one—the correction of wage inequities within the general level of existing prices.

I realize, however, that in many individual cases such a standard may prove difficult to administer. Indeed, all wage standards are difficult to administer, and the practicability of each standard must be judged by balancing administrative difficulties against the importance of the object to be accomplished, the stabilization of wage and price level.

I am sympathetic to any proposal which will ameliorate the administrative difficulties of our present "fringe" policy without impairing the objective

established by the President's order. At present this office and the National War Labor Board, are attempting to fashion a better means to carry out this objective.

Sugar Entries up over 1943

The War Food Administration reports that the quantity of sugar entered for consumption from all offshore areas during the calendar year 1944 amounted to 5,533,250 short tons, raw value. For the corresponding period in 1943, the quantity entered totaled 4,927,022 tons. The figures are subject to change after final outturn weights and polarization data for all entries are available.

A total of 503,145 short tons of sugar, raw value, was marketed by the mainland cane area and 1,156,300 tons by the continental beet area during the calendar year 1944, as compared with 460,414 tons and 1,525,735 tons, respectively, during 1943.

DDT Released for Experiments

A limited quantity of DDT, the war-developed insect killer, has been released to DDT producers for distribution for agricultural and other civilian experimentation, the War Production Board has reported.

Formerly requests for DDT for research work required application to WPB for individual allocations of the chemical. Released according to the provisions of Paragraph (f) of Order M-300, the general chemicals allocations order, the material can now be obtained directly from DDT producers without further permission from WPB. DDT is governed by Schedule 25 of Order M-300.

Although direct military uses have required the entire supply of DDT, a limited quantity will be made available for research directed toward development of commercial uses for the chemical, WPB said.

Higher Farm Machinery Quotas

To help compensate for production lag in many items of farm machinery, plants that are not running at full capacity and have necessary labor available may apply to the War Production Board for authorization to make more than their approved quotas of these items, that agency has announced. Applications should be filed by letter in local WPB field offices with a separate letter for each item. In considering applications for authorization to make additional items, small plants will be given first consideration, WPB said.

1944 Canned Tomato Pack

Total pack of canned tomatoes in 1944 was 22,577,297 cases of all sizes of containers as compared with 25,020,561 cases in 1943. The 1944 pack is equivalent to 26,008,841 cases of No. 2's as compared with 29,209,188 cases of equivalent No. 2's in 1943. The 1944 pack by States and principal sizes of containers is shown in the following table, compiled by the Association's Division of Statistics:

States	24/2 Cases	24/2½ Cases	6/10 Cases	Other Cases	Total Cases
New York.....	113,230	97,323	209,426	7,790	427,769
Maryland.....	4,465,149	643,717	1,000,804	.....	6,109,760
Delaware.....	127,580	81,864	95,693	17,289	322,456
New Jersey.....	34,102	32,126	145,791	.....	212,019
Pennsylvania.....	486,858	101,198	221,753	.....	811,809
Virginia and West Virginia.....	1,993,900	278,924	70,598	12,640	2,365,152
Ohio.....	559,021	324,507	373,305	.....	1,156,923
Indiana.....	1,228,545	383,999	444,479	11,800	2,068,823
Tennessee and Kentucky.....	360,118	58,127	130,148	.....	548,393
Arkansas and Missouri.....	1,983,390	156,843	187,340	.....	2,327,582
Colorado.....	39,094	56,008	55,935	.....	151,037
Utah.....	98,140	368,314	183,985	.....	650,439
California.....	211,260	1,933,015	923,819	.....	3,068,094
Other States.....	1,777,540	155,928	311,058	32,815	2,297,341
Total.....	13,480,017	4,571,923	4,423,323	102,034	22,577,297

TYDINGS BILLS

(Concluded from page 8523)

sentality in an agricultural occupation or endeavor, and to whether a satisfactory replacement can be obtained. It further authorizes a joint Congressional committee of six to determine responsibility for the wholesale induction of essential farmers and its effect upon food production.

The bill, which Senator Tydings plans to add to the "work-or-fight" bill, specifies the local draft boards shall base their findings "solely and exclusively" on the draftee's essentiality in an agricultural occupation or endeavor, and their ability to replace him. The bill specifies that farm labor found unfit for military service, either physically or otherwise, is frozen in their jobs.

As the LETTER went to press, Chairman Thomas of the Senate Military Affairs reported that hearings were completed and that the committee will write its own manpower bill. They plan to take parts of the Revercomb and the Kilgore-Wagner-Ferguson bills and to give more authority to the War Manpower Commission to deal with manpower problems.

Hearings on both House and Senate side have pictured a military versus civilian pattern with the War and Navy Department strong advocates of the May-Bailey bill and labor-management and most of agriculture supporting the Kilgore and Revercomb bills.

The House yesterday, by a heavy majority, passed the George bill divorcing the RFC from the Commerce Department. The measure now goes to the President. Mr. Roosevelt previously has stated that he would sign the bill. When the measure first reached the House floor on Thursday, a Republican-led coalition with some Southern Democrats gave the administration the stiffest battle in some time when a test vote on the bill finally gave the administration a slim ten-vote lead.

The \$6,700,000 appropriation for an agricultural census apparently will go through Congress quietly, as the appropriation has passed the House and was reported out favorably by the Senate committee this week.

The Senate-passed bill exempting the insurance business from the Federal anti-trust laws until January 1, 1948, was passed by the House Tuesday but must go back to the Senate for consideration of amendments. This measure was written to give the States time to rewrite their legislation to conform with the Supreme Court's decision last year, that the insurance business is interstate commerce and subject to the Federal anti-trust laws.

Measures to extend the life of the OPA for another year were introduced by the respective chairmen of the Senate and House Banking and Currency committees, Senator Wagner and Representative Spence. The bills (S.J. Res. 30 and H.J. Res. 101) propose an eighteen-month extension to December 31, 1946, instead of the usual year. Hearings will start before the Senate committee on February 27.

The Senate-approved bill to extend the life of the Commodity Credit Corporation, which was reported out of the House Banking and Currency committee last week, was inactive and awaits the chairman's decision to secure a request from the Rules Committee.

WPB Tightens Scrap Tin Order in Effort to Step Up Salvage

As the results of increased wartime requirements for tin, Conservation Order M-325, governing tinplate scrap, has been amended by the War Production Board to stimulate increased preparation and collection of used tin cans.

The used tin can collection provisions of the order now apply to all areas of the continental United States. The amended order requires all refuse collectors to collect segregated prepared used tin cans and deliver them to or for the account of an official salvage committee, a detinning plant, a smelter engaged in recovery of tin, a shredding plant or a plant engaged in the precipitation of copper.

Order M-325 previously required refuse collectors (including municipal departments or agencies engaged in refuse collection) in municipalities of 25,000 population or over, situated in 33 designated States and the District of Columbia, to collect prepared used tin cans and delivered them to detinning plants. These States and the District of Columbia were designated on Schedule B attached to the order. Schedule B listings now are included in the general provisions of the order.

The amended order also requires packers using tin cans to deliver all "spoiled" or non-reusable tin cans to or for the account of a detinning plant, shredding plant or official salvage committee, in a form acceptable to such plant or committee.

The amended Order M-325 provides that on and after May 1, 1945, no person who generates tinplate scrap in the course of his manufacturing operations shall keep in his possession for more than 30 days a quantity of tinplate scrap that exceeds 60,000 pounds or a minimum carload lot, whichever is greater.

Frozen Fruit and Vegetable Stocks Held in Cold Storage

Frozen fruits and vegetables in storage on February 1 were almost 9 million pounds greater than any previous February. Holdings of vegetables alone, however, were below the stocks of a year ago. Both frozen fruits and vegetables were withdrawn from storage more rapidly than normal. The out-movement of fruits was 9 million pounds greater than last year and some 11 million pounds greater than the five-year average.

The January out-movement of some 22 million pounds of vegetables was 5 million pounds above the out-movement of last January and 11 million pounds above the average.

The following table shows the stocks of frozen fruits and vegetables on February 1, 1944, and January 1 and February 1, 1945:

	Feb. 1, 1944	Jan. 1, 1945	Feb. 1, 1945
	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
FROZEN FRUITS			
Apples.....	34,958	40,810	
Blackberries.....	7,506	11,185	9,326
Cherries.....	16,933	34,499	28,113
Young, Logan, Boyesen.....	4,016	8,858	8,147
Raspberries.....	14,912	13,093	10,991
Strawberries.....	19,915	19,504	17,504
Grapes.....		19,415	16,215
Plums and prunes.....		14,227	12,251
Peaches.....		30,359	26,530
Fruit juices and purees.....		15,653	16,017
All other fruits.....	146,542	66,656	56,490
Total.....	209,824	268,407	242,394
FROZEN VEGETABLES			
Asparagus.....	4,789	6,429	4,820
Beans, lima.....	10,010	12,324	10,313
Beans, snap.....	13,951	16,303	13,575
Broccoli.....	2,217	4,490	4,530
Cauliflower.....		2,938	2,788
Corn, sweet.....	14,736	19,348	16,920
Peas, green.....	30,509	45,607	37,398
Spinach.....	11,518	16,931	14,666
Brussels sprouts.....		3,683	3,270
Pumpkin and squash.....		8,631	7,154
Baked beans.....		3,872	3,069
Vegetable purees.....		781	868
All other vegetables.....	72,838	25,493	28,180
Total.....	169,658	166,910	145,260

Railway Financing Sets Record

Railroad financing for the year 1944 amounted to \$622,770,000 of which \$612,770,000 was accomplished through the sale of long-term bonds and notes and the balance by means of short-term bonds and notes, according to a report issued by the *Commercial and Financial Chronicle*. No new stock issues were sold during the year.

Financing by the railroads in 1944 was the largest for any similar period during the past five years. In 1943 such financing amounted to \$152,436,000; in 1942 it stood at \$48,595,850; in 1941 at \$365,276,000, and in 1940 at \$372,289,000.

Canned Vegetable Subsidies Extended to Tomato Products

The War Food Administration has amended the 1944 equalization payment program for specified canned vegetables to include several canned tomato products—catsup, paste, puree, sauce, cocktail and tomato juice contained in mixed vegetable juices.

Canned products already included in the program are green peas, snap beans, sweet corn, tomatoes, tomato juice, tomato soup and pea soup. The 1944 program for these vegetables is on a processed basis.

Payment for the tomato products now included will be made to certified canners on the basis of eligible civilian sales. The sales period—from March 1, 1944 through April 30, 1945—will be the same for all commodities included in the program.

The equalization payment on canned tomato products is the difference between the 1942 area average price paid to growers (1943 Commodity Credit Corporation resale price) and the 1944 grower support price. The tonnage of tomatoes used in the manufacture of each item will determine the total dollar payment which, in turn, will be converted into a "cents per dozen" figure for the finished product.

The amendment authorizes payments to canners of tomato paste and puree when these products are used by them in the manufacture of other food products.

Copies of the amendment to the agreement between canners and the Commodity Credit Corporation, including details of the method of applying for payment, are now being mailed to canners. Inquiries concerning the program should be addressed to the Director of Supply, Commodity Credit Corporation, War Food Administration, Washington 25, D. C.

WSA to Sell Fishing Boats

Invitation to bid on 11 fishing vessels has been extended by the War Shipping Administration. The vessels are being offered for sale to American citizens on an "as is, where is, on date of delivery" basis. Prospective bidders may obtain copies of the invitation for bids upon application to the Assistant Deputy Administrator for Small Vessels, War Shipping Administration, Washington 25, D. C. Bids will be received until 2:15 p.m., EWT, February 28, WSA officials said.

Locations, names, official numbers, and types of the vessels follow.

Located at Bucksport, S. C.—Bella, 240537; Capt. Fred, 240682; Howard,

241517; M. A. Santos (no number given); Ottis, 241629; Romie, 241061; all commercial fishing boats; and West Wind (no number given), shrimp fisherman boat.

Located at New Orleans, La.—Kingfish, 234275; Majestic, 229870; both fish trawler (lugger type) boats.

Located at Houston, Tex.—Midshipman, 240312; Nerone, 231707; both fish trawler (lugger type) boats.

Canned Poultry Order Amended

Canned poultry packed in glass or tin prior to February 14, is exempt from the set-aside provisions of War Food Order 125, the War Food Administration has announced. The action was taken in an amendment to the order.

WFO 125, in general, requires that all poultry eviscerated or canned after February 14 be set aside for disposition under the order. The order was placed in effect to help the armed services meet their requirements for canned poultry. (See INFORMATION LETTER 1023, page 8521.)

Virginia Canners Will Not Meet

The Virginia Canners Association has canceled its annual meeting which was to be held at Roanoke on February 27 and 28.

Try to Increase V-boxboard

Proposals of the War Production Board Paperboard Division to increase the production of containerboard, particularly V-boxboard, and keep all mills in full operation were endorsed in principle by members of the Containerboard and Fiber Box Industry Advisory Committees at a recent meeting. In this connection, proposed amendments to Containerboard Order M-290, including means for conserving kraft pulp, plans to insure a more equal distribution of containerboard so that all authorizations for board could be filled, and changes intended to provide more flexible operation of the order were discussed by members of the committee and WPB officials.

Complaints from the Navy about the failure of certain types of fiber containers to stand up under service conditions were registered. The assistance of the paperboard and container manufacturers is necessary in improving these products, WPB said. One committee suggestion was that the board to be used in producing these boxes be standardized at the manufacturing level so as to comply with Naval specifications and assure better performance of the finished boxes.

Instructions to Local Boards on Drafting of Deferred Men

In a signed editorial published in the January number of "Selective Service," Director Lewis B. Hershey stated:

"The continued production of the munitions of war and of food must be maintained. This production can and must be maintained by the use of the least possible number of deferred men within the age group 18 through 29, and of the physical standards required by the armed forces.

"The decision for each registrant must be made initially by his local board. The members of these local boards are most familiar with the Selective Training and Service Act; they know the regulations; they have detailed information of the part that each registrant has played in support of the war since Pearl Harbor. To a most unusual degree the local boards have the confidence of the people, the President, the Congress, and the Judiciary."

In a letter to local draft board members, sent out on January 15, Director Hershey said:

"Since the armed forces need young men and since the supply of those in the age group 18 through 25 is practically exhausted, a substantial part of our calls from this time on will have to be filled with men in the age group 26 through 29. There are only 828,000 men in this age group now classified in Class II-A or Class II-B. Those who are selected for service in the armed forces must be taken as nearly as possible in the order of their essentiality, the least essential being taken first."

Director Hershey further called attention to the order in which it was recommended that the men be taken. This order was given in the address by Col. F. V. Keesling, reproduced on page 8513 of last week's INFORMATION LETTER.

The letter to local draft boards also included this statement:

"Recognizing your desire for full and complete information about the importance of registrants, I have advised the responsible government agencies that they may, if they so desire, advise their employers to list their employees ages 26 through 29 in the order of their importance to the plant and that they may inform you either on the Form 42-A or by supplemental statement of the comparative position of a given employee on this list."

Association Reports Mailed

A copy of the Secretary's Annual Report and the Annual Report to the Research Committee were mailed last week to all Association members. Any member who did not receive a copy or who desires additional copies should notify the Association.